



How to Establish Honesty & Truthfulness



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful





Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

We pray that this message reaches you
in good health and imaan.

On behalf of our AMAU Academy team, we would like
to present to you these compiled notes that we have
prepared to make your journey with us a lot easier.

Our notes are compiled by the AMAU Admin team
and have not been comprehensively checked
by a teacher.

If you find any errors or corrections that need
to be made, kindly inform us via our email
helpdesk@amauacademy.com

May Allah make our paths toward seeking
beneficial knowledge easy and kindle our hearts
with sincerity and gratefulness
towards Him.

Jazakumullahu Khayran



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جل جلاله | Jalla Jalāluhu
Allah the Most Exalted

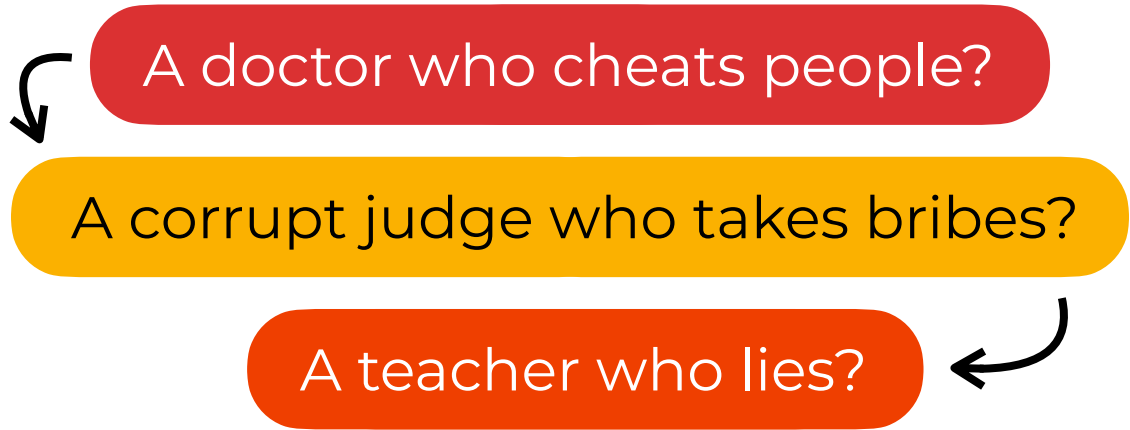
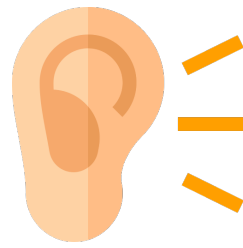


صلى الله عليه وسلم | Sallāllāhu Alayhi Wa Sallam
Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him

The Virtue of Honesty and the Harm of Lying

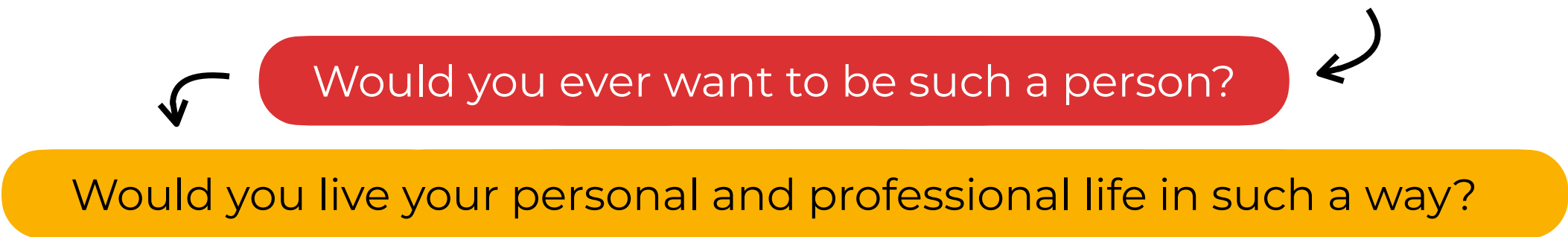
Chapter One

HAVE YOU HEARD?



Most likely you have.

The fact is that deceitful individuals are found in all walks of life, both Islamic and non-Islamic, regardless of perceived nobility. A person may be a Hafidh of the Qur'an and still be a liar. **So, here comes the next question:**



The obvious answer is no.

1 — What is the Cause of This Problem?

The core of the problem lies in the fact that immoral people fail to realize and establish the important principle of honesty in their lives.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

1 **إِنَّ الصَّدْقَ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْبِرِّ، وَإِنَّ الْبِرَّ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ، وَإِنَّ الرَّجُلَ لَيَصْدُقُ حَتَّى يَكُونَ صَدِيقًا، وَإِنَّ الْكَذِبَ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْفُجُورِ، وَإِنَّ الْفُجُورَ يَهْدِي إِلَى النَّارِ، وَإِنَّ الرَّجُلَ لَيَكْذِبُ، حَتَّى يُكْتَبَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ كَذَّابًا**

"Truthfulness leads to righteousness, and righteousness leads to Paradise. And a man keeps on telling the truth until he becomes a truthful person. Falsehood leads to Al-Fajur (i.e. wickedness, evil-doing), and Al-Fajur (wickedness) leads to the (Hell) Fire, and a man may keep on telling lies till he is written before Allah as a liar."

Sahih al-Bukhari 6094

Truthfulness is a precious quality that opens doors to goodness in this world and the next.

When a person is honest and truthful, Allah guides and rewards him, and opens doors of goodness for him, which ultimately leads him to Paradise. People trust him because of his honesty. Consequently, he earns a good reputation.

Lying and falsehood, on the other hand, open doors to other sins. If a person is dishonest, then lying may not be the only sin he commits. It is highly probable that he commits several other sins of which others may be unaware. As a result of his sins piling one upon another, he may be thrown into the Hellfire.

To wrap up, this chapter has emphasized the importance of honesty as a moral guide leading us towards goodness and Paradise, while also highlighting the serious consequences of dishonesty in this Dunya and the Hereafter.

Being Honest with Yourself

Chapter Two

1 HOW TO START BEING HONEST WITH ONESELF

To overcome the spiritual ailment of dishonesty and establish honesty as a core principle in your life, follow these steps:

1 Acknowledge the presence of dishonesty in yourself

Honesty must begin with oneself. Before being honest with others, you must first be truthful with yourself. This is the initial stride towards repentance and self-improvement.

Admit your shortcomings with regard to being honest with yourself. Sit back and think about your current situation.

For instance, think about the way in which you offer Salah and ask yourself: Is this what I should be offering to Allah ﷻ?

Know that Allah is **الغنى** (The Independent One) and **الحميد** (The Most Praiseworthy). He is not in need of our prayers while we need Him to get our deeds accepted.

Ask yourself: Are my prayers worthy of being offered to the One who is purely Good and accepts only that which is purely good?

2 Acknowledge your dishonesty to others

Once you become honest with yourself, being honest with others becomes a lot easier.

Lack of honesty is a serious problem. If you find yourself lying to people or cheating them, take a step back to reassess yourself.

Know that these small acts lead to bigger problems in this world and in the Hereafter. If you develop a habit of cheating and lying to people about small things, you will end up doing the same in bigger matters without even realising it.

2 UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE BEYOND THEIR APPEARANCES

It is wrong to presume that the trait of honesty is only seen in people of noble status or that common people without a noble status cannot have such a trait. As humans, we are all prone to such flaws, which emphasises the fact that **when Imaan is in the heart, it reflects in our actions and not appearance or social standing.**

It is not uncommon to come across an individual with little knowledge of Islam who trembles out of fear of Allah when given a dirham more than his due. Likewise, one may hear of a faqih who, despite holding a PhD, exhibits shockingly deceptive behaviours.

3 AN EXAMPLE OF HOW CORRUPT A PERSON CAN BECOME

There was once a judge who had to settle a sensitive case between two opposing parties.

A wealthy man from one of the parties invited him over to his farm.

It was nighttime, so they had a fire burning.

The judge asked the wealthy man, “So, how much are you going to pay me for making the decision in your favour?” The man replied that he would give 50,000 dirhams.

The judge demanded more money, but the man denied it.

He then pointed towards the fire, and said, “If I ask you to jump into that fire, will you do it?”

“Never. Why would I do that?”

The judge said to him, “I am going to jump into a bigger fire for you on the Day of Judgement by making you win this case... and you are still unwilling to give me anything more than 50,000 dirhams for it?”

This was a true incident that occurred. It underscores the extent of corruption some individuals can reach.

4 THE POTENTIAL FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

If a person is sincere, they can relinquish their bad habits and undergo transformations that will positively shape their character. However, if they remain unchanged and do not work on self-improvement, their negative habits will define their character, leading them down a destructive path.

In conclusion, this chapter highlights the initial step toward breaking the cycle of dishonesty. It emphasizes that our true character is revealed through the purity of our actions and the sincerity of our hearts, not through outward appearances or social status.

Fixing the Mistakes

Chapter Three

One effective way to inspire self-improvement is to envision yourself a decade from now and determine the person you aspire to become. ***Will you be known for deceiving others or respected as an honest individual?***

A Acknowledgement, Commitment, & Remorse

The path to transformation lies in your actions. So, how can you change for the better?

● Acknowledge Your Shortcomings:

Begin by recognizing and admitting your mistakes. This paves the way for repentance as a person cannot repent to Allah unless he admits that he has been wrong.

● Feel Remorse:

Develop genuine remorse for past actions and let disdain for these sins grow within your heart. You should despise the idea of reverting to your former dishonest self and remain determined never to return to it.

● Make a Commitment:

Cease all acts of dishonesty and commit to never repeating them. Additionally, seek guidance from Allah through prayer and draw inspiration from the lives and stories of honest and righteous individuals.

B Drawing Inspiration from Exemplary People

Once, there lived a woman who earned her livelihood by selling knitted clothes. One day, she approached Imam Ahmad with a question.

She explained that she crafted her garments using the moonlight and sometimes, when the night sky lacked a moon, she worked without any source of light.

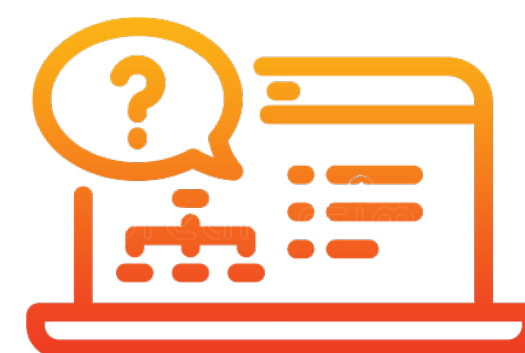
Her concern was whether she should inform her customers about this situation to avoid any potential deception.

Imam Ahmad was deeply impressed by her inquiry. He advised her to disclose this circumstance to her customers to ensure transparency.

After her departure, he inquired about the woman and discovered that she was the sister of Bishr Al-Hafi, a renowned ascetic and scholar of the time. Imam Ahmad concluded that such a question was not surprising, given her family's reputation for unwavering truthfulness.

This story illustrates that individuals accustomed to honesty in all their dealings remain conscientious about truthfulness even in the smallest matters. Observing and admiring such outstanding examples of honest people can inspire others to adopt a similar character.

In conclusion, this final chapter presents a comprehensive framework for breaking free from the grasp of dishonesty, letting go of the past, and striving to become the best version of ourselves.



To ensure your progress,
we recommend that you take
this self evaluation quiz based
on the notes and video
series that you have
just completed.

Attempt Quiz

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